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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 5051
Appl. No.: 09/921,323
Applicant(s): Gillespie et al
Filed: August 2, 2001
Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: John J. Guarriello
Title: SPUNBOND NONWOVEN FABRICS FROM RECLAIMED POLYMER
AND THE MANUFACTURE THEREOF

Docket No.: 034423/237429
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed November 15, 2004, reconsideration by the Examiner and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 and 4-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor U.S. Patent No. 6,737,009 in view of Kent U.S. Patent No. 5,885,705. The Examiner notes that Taylor is directed to a process and system for producing spunbond nonwoven fabrics formed of multicomponent filaments, and mentions that that the filaments can be in a sheath core configuration. The Examiner recognizes, however, that Taylor does not teach the use of reclaimed polypropylene, and fails to teach that the core component of the bicomponent filament can be reclaimed polypropylene in an amount of up to 100% by weight.

The Kent reference is relied upon for its disclosure of bicomponent fibers having a contaminant-containing core and methods of making the same. The Kent reference is concerned with a bicomponent fiber having a polyamide sheath and a contaminant-containing polyamide

1 of 7